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MARCH MEETING.

THE stated meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th instant, at three o'clock, P.M., the first Vice-President, Mr. LORD, in the chair.

In the absence of the Recording Secretary, Grenville H. NORCROSS was chosen Recording Secretary, *pro tempore*.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Librarian reported the following accessions:

From John Whittemore Farwell, of Boston, copies from several papers of Arodi Thayer (1743-1831) on his allowance for services as Marshal at Boston and at Philadelphia.

From J. B. Blatterman, of Shreveport, Louisiana, seven letters written by Edward Everett to his father, Mr. G. W. Blatterman, of Kentucky, 1857-1859.

From Dr. J. Collins Warren, the biographical sketch of General Joseph Warren by Alexander H. Everett in his own handwriting, given to Dr. Warren's father, Dr. J. Mason Warren, in 1862, by Edward Everett; and other papers.

By purchase, the account book of Samuel Cowell, of Wrentham, 1769-1807; also a broadside of "A True and Particular Narrative of the late Tremendous Tornado, or Harricane, at Philadelphia and New York, on Sabbath-Day, July 1, 1792," printed at Boston (Ford, 2671).

The Cabinet-Keeper reported the following gifts:

From Misses Sarah and Joanna Williams, of Yonkers, New York, a crayon portrait of Major-General John Thomas, their great-great-grandfather, drawn by Benjamin Blyth, Salem, 1777;¹ with Blyth's bill, February 15, 1777, in which he charges for the picture, 4.4.0, and 1.16.0 for the frame and glass.

From Henry Winchester Cunningham, of a lithographic view of the Back Bay, Charles Street, and the Common from a sketch taken in 1823 from the balcony, 61 Beacon Street, by Miss Mary Jane Derby afterwards the wife of Rev. Ephraim Peabody.

¹ McStauffer, *American Engravers*, I. 23, and Dunlap, *History of the Arts of Design* (Bayley-Goodspeed), III. 283.

From the Estate of Miss Edith Andrew, gloves worn by Gen. John C. Frémont, given to her father, Gov. John A. Andrew, by Mrs. J. F. Whipple.

From Mrs. Kingsmill Marrs, a miniature portrait of her late husband, painted by Mrs. Homer Saint-Gaudens about 1910 from photographs, and some volumes to be added to the Kingsmill Marrs Collection.

From Miss Carrie Josephine Bailey, of Lowell, Mass., through Miss Linda S. Armstrong, three daguerreotypes, one of a bust of George Washington, another of a bust of Shakespeare, and the third of a copperplate, in reverse, of "The Art of Making Money Plenty," by Nathaniel Dearborn, Boston. A copy of this engraving has been presented to this Society by Walter Rowland.

From Mrs. Theodore P. Burgess, of Dedham, a mahogany case, in which has been placed her gift of relics of Col. Henry Bromfield (1727-1820).

The President, in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, reported the receipt of a letter from Charles Warren of Dedham, accepting his election as a Resident Member of the Society.

The Vice-President announced the appointment of the following Committees, in preparation for the Annual Meeting in April:

To nominate Officers for the ensuing year: Messrs. ROGER BIGELOW MERRIMAN, WILLIAM CAMERON FORBES, and LAWRENCE SHAW MAYO.

To examine the Library and Cabinet: Messrs. FREDERICK CHEEVER SHATTUCK, GEORGE LYMAN KITTREDGE, and GEORGE GREGERSON WOLKINS.

To examine the Treasurer's Accounts: Messrs. CHARLES PELHAM GREENOUGH, and HAROLD MURDOCK.

Mr. PAUL R. FROTHINGHAM spoke at length on the "Assembly of the League of Nations," its manner of operating and the personalities it contained.

Mr. ROBERT M. LAWRENCE read "Notes on the Early Settlers of Massachusetts," based upon his researches in family history.

Mr. NORCROSS offered two letters on the Boston fire of 1872, written immediately after the event by a former member of the Society.

SAMUEL LOTHROP THORNDIKE TO WILLIAM H. GARDINER.

2 PEMBERTON SQUARE,
December 2, 1872.

MY DEAR SIR,—I shall forward my monthly statement by the next steamer. I write a few lines today in review of a fortnight as dismal in some respects as can well be imagined—but in other respects most cheering. There are individual cases of great calamity to large land-holders or owners of great amounts of insurance stocks. Some of these of course are people whom we have been accustomed to consider among the safe and solid men of wealth. I learn that Mr. Edward Brooks has had his income cut down from \$60,000. to about \$8,000. The other Brookses must have suffered somewhat. James Codman and John Sturgis's wife and the rest of that family have suffered exceedingly. *Per contra* many of our richest men have not lost a sou. I presume that John Forbes and Thayer, etc., etc., had not a foot of merchantile real-estate or a share of insurance stock among them.

The loss *has* fallen mainly upon the class of people who had large stocks of goods on hand—commission houses, jobbers, and the like. And it looks now as if the loss of these goods is to stimulate rather than depress the manufacturing interests. The Lowell Company lost but little. They had made little however during the last year, and it is by a mere falling back upon their reserves, and because they think that the community needs money at this time if ever, that they divide \$30. Mr. Jewett has broken down in health with the vexations of the past year, and now takes a vacation of a few months. Sampson under the supervision of Mr. Amory and Mr. Burnham will hold the Treasurer's power: or rather the office will be put in commission of the whole board of Directors.

Do you not think that our office is fortunate in regard to the fire? So little real estate and so little insurance stock is a rare piece of luck. That is to say,—I suppose that the Cushings' land will be worth almost as much without the buildings as with them: their insurance stock is not 5% of their whole property: something is saved in the way of insurance. Mrs. Dexter loses nothing except a little insurance stock: Mrs. Cleveland nothing at all, if her silver at Shreve's proves to be all safe: and the Perkinses nothing at all except a few nights' sleep.

You have heard of poor Mr. Dexter's death. He caught his cold in superintending the opening of the vaults under Trinity. Faithfully yours,

S. L. THORNDIKE.

2 PEMBERTON SQUARE,
December 7, '72.

MY DEAR SIR,— I forward the monthly statement enclosed.

There is not much more to communicate at present on the great subject of the fire. It is uncertain how the insurances will turn out—for the Mutual Offices are to have no end of trouble in settling up their affairs. Many persons having policies upon which no loss has happened will make objection to cancelling them, and therefore outstanding risks will have to be computed. Many others will make as much delay as possible in paying up assessments. The amount which the Cushings have at stake is not large, for the buildings which have been burnt were always considered by the companies of small value in proportion to the land, and they would never take, as you remember, large risks upon the stores.

I mentioned that the American and the Mercantile are the survivors of the Boston offices which took fire-risks. This was not mere chance, but the fact that their business was largely Marine. They are very sound. I have given them much of our out-of-town insurance, including yours at Brookline, upon the principle that the suburbs may still insure in Boston. I have also let them have \$10,000. upon C. Avenue. The Mass. Mutual policies I have not yet disturbed, as they are still reputed worth nearly their face, but in view of the probable trouble in settlement, of which I just spoke, I shall reinsure these at the London & Liverpool. I have given the L. & L. \$15,000. upon Temple Place, to replace the Fireman's and two of the Mutuels (\$5000. each,) which are beyond hope. I have also given the L. & L. several other risks belonging to our clients, and have given some to one or two other London offices, and to offices in New York, etc. Rates are pretty high, nearly 50% more than of old, but I have done pretty well in this respect, on the whole.

I need not say how I sympathize with you so far away from immediate, daily knowledge of what has happened, and what has been and is being done to remedy it. I have no doubt that you would willingly exchange for the moment the view of the blue Mediterranean from Mentone for a glimpse of the ruins of Milk and Summer Streets. It must be harder for you than for me, and I assure you I have not slept upon roses. However nobody desponds.

Give my regards to the ladies, and tell them that it's all right, — but that I still wish to preach a little sermon from your mouth upon the text of the fire, to the effect that it will not be

well to buy up all the wares of all the art and curiosity dealers in Rome until we see how the spring dividends are coming in. I can fancy you dilating upon this theme. For yourself, I know that you will be sparing in everything except candles.

Say to Miss Gardiner that I have had a visit from Fritz, and that he was as white as ever, and — as irritable. So I presume he is well. I have also had a call from a . . . [*incomplete.*]

Mr. FORD spoke as follows:

At the meeting in March, 1922, Dr. Nichols presented to the Society a very valuable collection of historical manuscripts, being the papers of Governor William Livingston of New Jersey and of his son-in-law, Matthew Ridley of Maryland. The nature of the collection was then outlined and the source whence obtained was given.¹ Miss Sara Norton died during the summer and a large addition to the papers was found by her sister, Miss Elizabeth Gaskell Norton, set aside for delivery to the Society. That addition has now been received in the names of the sisters and much increases the historical importance of the Livingston-Ridley papers. Public or commercial private correspondence, miscellaneous accounts and records, letters and drafts of letters, complete the earlier acquisition and furnish a record quite unequalled in its relations, personal and official.

Mr. Alexander Sedgwick found among the Sedgwick papers a letter-book of Matthew Ridley, July, 1783, to April, 1785, and generously adds it to the letter-books in the Society, thus making the series more complete. It comprises his mercantile letters from Paris and London in the first years of the peace and pictures the uncertainties and adventures in trade with the United States at that time.

The volume on "Broad sides" (Collections, LXXV) is calling out hitherto unknown examples of those issues, one of which relates to the so-called Boston "Massacre." It is decorated with a heading of five coffins each bearing the initials of one of the killed, and with head lines that would match those of a yellow journal of to-day: On the Death of Five/young Men who/was Murdered,/March 5th 1770./ By the 29th Regi/ment. This interesting piece was found in the hands of a collector in New Hampshire.

¹ *Proceedings*, LIV. 225.



On the Death of Five
young Men who
was Murthered,
March 5th 1770.
By the 29th Regi-
ment.

MOURN O my Friends, let solemn numbers flow,
From thy sad thoughts, fit for the scenes of Woe,
For in *King-street* their breathless Bodies lay;
For Dead, ah! Dead for ever Dead are they.

By cruel Soldiers, five Men were slain,
Their everlasting happiness to gain;
And when fierce Troops urg'd thick on ev'ry Side,
They spurn'd their Fate, and spread Destruction wide.

Till in their Bodies lodg'd the fatal Lead,
Beat low the Force of Life, and left them dead;
They have made their Drels with scarlet Flame:
Like the deep red which speaks a modest Shame.

My streaming Eyes gush plenteous o'er their hearse;
While thus I strove, the fading honours of my Verse;
For who unmov'd can see their lovely Limbs,
Stretch'd on the Ground, and dy'd with purple Streams.

But now, O! dreadful thoughts, eternal Night,
Has clos'd their Eyes, and veil'd them out of sight;
Shall then the Murd'ers eternal live:
And all the waste, of envious time survive.

While their sad Fate employs a silent woe,
And Death shall seize their Fame and Body too:
Now live dear Youth's, green with immortal Baize,
And let successive Years augment your PRAISE.

LETTER OF EDWIN BYNNER

On behalf of Mr. HOWE, Mr. FORD read the following letter from Edwin Bynner, found by his daughter, Miss Naomi Bynner, among her brother's papers. Mr. Bynner was born in Wales, came early to the United States and after an experience in journalism as editor of the local paper at Clinton, Mass., he took an executive position on one of the railroads of the Commonwealth. He removed to New York, as the heading of the letter shows. His son, Edwin Lasseter Bynner, was a member of this Society.¹

OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL STEAMBOAT COMPANY

Edwin Bynner,
Agent.

PIER 11, NORTH RIVER,
NEW YORK, April 23rd, 1865.

MY DEAR SISTER, — Yours of 19th pmkd 22 s, is this day rec^d. Mine of 20th had evidently *not* reached you, as it probably has — ere this. Yes! the boy is safe, preserved, I trust, for good ends. I would I could exchange records with him. The feeling of shame which oppress^d me when it was first determined I should *not* take the field, is not yet dead in me. I fancy I *ought* to have been there: and yet believe as I then did, that it was *the* opportunity of my life. Men make events, less than events make them. Under favoring circumstances blockheads become heroes! However, as usual, 'tis "too late!"

The murder of Lincoln shocked more than it surprised me. All History is alike. In all epochs of its manufacture — the assassin jostles the hero! Through the stirring scenes of Revolution they march side by side.

Your emotions upon rec^t of the news, were not peculiar. In many respects the victim was a *great* man! in more — eminently a good man. No man *so* great in American History ever came so near, so close to the people. During my three interviews with him through all the opportunities I had for observing him, (and that I did so, closely, you will know), I was impressed by the grasp, the comprehensiveness of his intellect; the quickness of his perception, the rapidity and clearness of his analyses, surprised as much as it gratified me, but more than these qualities, the

¹ A Memoir of him, by Barrett Wendell, is in 2 *Proceedings*, IX. 173.

thorough Kindliness, the humanity of the man — was a spectacle. His was a *strong* mind. He had great sagacity, large self control: was wonderfully balanced. Amid intellectualities finer, of much better Culture, such as men would traditionally deem greater, his was the master.

You *felt* its power, rather than observed it. What prevented instant recognition with the many — was the garb of pure simplicity it wore, and simplicity is the natural dress of greatness. I see him now (*unlike* you) as I saw him then, and my recollections of him are of the pleasantest. I have not the least wish to look upon his body, would not, if I could. Aside from the natural horror of murder, it is difficult to decide that his death was — for his fame — untimely. His reputation was at its zenith! Perhaps *his* task was finished. Unborn millions will rank him only next to Washington, whom he undoubtedly resembled more than any other successor. His memory will be green through all the coming ages. His foul taking off converted thousands of bitter foes into mourning friends.

Your publicists, who — a fortnight since — could find for him no more courtly designation than “Gorilla!” have written him — within a week — “Patriot!” the “kindest hearted man who ever occupied a high position,” a “far-seeing and sagacious statesman”! the “wisest man of his time! &c.” So queerly does partisan rancour blind the judgment and degrade humanity!

As for the country? I know no fear. Its Past is but the shadow of its future Grandeur! Its mission is scarce commenced.

The drag upon its measureless wheels has been *but* Slavery, and that is past! The forests of its middle states yet stand. Its South-Western territory is mainly virgin, and every acre will support a man. Filled with inexhaustible mineral wealth, a teeming soil; unguided and ever flowing streams, with the stamp of Power — by the Almighty Hand — everywhere stamped upon it! Mere finite conception cannot compass its ultimate conditions. America — to me — is the outer portal of the Millenium! Through its agencies are to be achieved universal Freedom! ultimate Peace! Heaven — its contiguous realms! Is this a rhapsody? It is the solemnest of prose which can be used in such a prophecy.

I thank God! that in the Past, when to be an Emancipationist was deemed disgraceful! When the general politician looked upon such only with contempt, I labored — not without some good fruit — in the great field. It is difficult to ignore the hand of God in the results. The man who for the showing of the “utter

Barbarism of Slavery" in his place in the Senate, was almost assassinated by its minion, who, contemned of all his Peers for such opinion, was refused place on the humblest Committee, is now the second power in the Land.

Two men — from the dregs of society (in the opinions of the oligarchs) two "mud-sills," managed the war against their conspiracy: seated in the highest posts of the Gov't, and utterly defeated them! The prophesied "utter barbarism," in the murder of one of these, — becomes historic! and universally believed. The uniformed negro, armed cap-a-pie, first enters conquered Richmond!

James Lloyd Garrison lends a hand to replace upon Sumter's flag-staff, the banner mocked and derided of lordly rebels! The arch-conspirator himself — fallen lower than Lucifer — is a fugitive, and may yet ask alms from the face for whose oppression he ruined his people!

In scores of ways the Poetry of Justice is illustrated, and Poetry — the sublimation of prose and sense; is God-written. I have faith in Johnson. He will rise to his work. The fight is not all fought, the lesson is not all ended. I do not think Seward will recover, but others will fill the vacant place. One man, however great, is but an atom! but I have filled my sheet and must close. God bless you my dear Sister

Yours Edwin

Mr. EDWARD GRAY spoke on

WARD CHIPMAN, JR., 1797-1798.

Ward Chipman the younger, son of Ward Chipman and Elizabeth (Hazen), was born at St. John, N. B., July 10. 1787. The elder Chipman was a Loyalist and settled at St. John, but his mother and sisters remained at Marblehead, Mass., and one of them, Elizabeth, married William Gray the Salem merchant. Ward, Jr., received his early education at St. John, and graduated at Harvard in 1805, where he was the first scholar in his class. After leaving college, he entered his father's law office, and was admitted to the bar of New Brunswick in 1808; later, he studied at the Temple for three years. He was appointed joint agent with his father on the Maine boundary commission in 1815, and made

¹ *Proceedings*, LIV. 331.

voyages to England in 1822 and 1828, in connection with this dispute. In 1824, he was elected speaker of the New Brunswick Assembly, and on his father's death that same year, he was appointed Puisne judge of the Supreme Court in his stead, and a member of the provincial council, and in 1834, chief justice of the Province. He resigned from this office in 1850, and died at St. John, November 26, 1851.

When he was ten years old, he spent the winter at Salem, Mass., with his aunt, Mrs. Gray, and the following letters were written at that period.

WARD CHIPMAN, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

SALEM, Thursday, 19th October, 1797.

MY DEAR PAPA, — I received your very affectionate letter dated 8th October with great pleasure and with Great pleasure I take up my pen to answer it. Mr. Turner's Ball ¹ will be to night which will close the Dancing for this Season I shall not be able to dance at the Ball Mr Turner says that it would be impossible for me to stand up in so short a time.

As to the French I can say little for that as Mouchy is very unsteady he has now been out of town a week and some Mornings when I have went he has been out and therefore I do not expect much from that quarter but Sir you may be assured that I will do my utmost in that and every other respect that will please you.

Our Evening School is not yet opened and Mr Biglow ² says I cannot write well enough to cypher yet I like Mr Biglow very well and think he is an excellent Master he does not make use of any corporeal punishment which I think is very right but he has got a stand and whoever whispers must go there and stay untill he find another whispering and then he goes to his seat and the other comes up.

After School sometimes I go to take a walk but most commonly go to Mr. Gray's store and play there I believe Papa as to cleanli-

¹ "Mr. [William] Turner, the English Master [he married Judith, a daughter of Dr. Holyoke] and Mr. Outein the French Master, have their Dancing Schools." Bentley, *Diary*, II. 268.

² Bentley mentions William Biglow (1773-1844) as keeping a private school, in the brick store corner of Court Street. He was educated at Cambridge and married a Lander. In 1805 he was appointed to the Grammar School in Boston, in place of Samuel Hunt, dismissed.

ness in my dress I am as I always was of which you and Mama can judge best I believe since you have been gone I have not omitted to clean my teeth more than twice. I have not been at Boston since you were here but I was at Cambridge about three weeks ago to see William¹ who is in very good health and he came home last Tuesday Night.

I will now translate those lines you wished me to

*Instrue praeceptis animum nec discere cesses,
Nam sine doctrina vita est quasi mortis imago*

Instruct your mind with good precepts nor cease to learn
For without Learning Life is like the image of Death.

Saturday, 21 October MY DEAR PAPA. I was at the Ball Thursday Night which was very brilliant and there was a greater concourse assembled on that night than on any like occasion Harry² and Miss Pickman opened the Ball with a minuet which was succeeded by a great number of Minuets and Cotillions Lucia³ danced the Fancy Dance with a little lad about her size. I was very much pleased and wished that you and Mama had been here for I know that you would have been very much pleased indeed.

I wish Papa the next time you write you would send me a song wrote in Mr. Murrays and directed to me which is called The Wish which I left in my desk in the office I have just received your letter dated 1st October which gives me great pleasure.

I wish my Dear Papa If you want me to do anything here for you that you would mention it and be assured I will do my utmost to please. I have now written a very long letter which I hope you will not consider tedious. I wish Papa you would present my love and respects to Mama, Aunt Murray and all the Point Family and kiss Fred for I am still in very good health and believe my Dear Papa that I still remain

Your most affectionate and dutiful Son.

WARD CHIPMAN, JUN^r

¹ William Rufus Gray (1783-1831), at this time in Harvard College.

² Henry Gray (1784-1854).

³ Lucia Gray (1788-1844), m. Samuel Swett (1782-1866).

WARD CHIPMAN, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

SALEM, Sunday, 19 November, 1797

DEAR PAPA, — William's Vacation being up about a fortnight ago I returned to Cambridge with him and from thence proceeded to Boston where I staid one night and lodged at Mr Brooks's I called to see Mrs. Sewell¹ where I found Miss Winslow and all very well Mrs. Sewell pulled a lock of my hair out which she put into a locket with some of yours and she said that she intended to get some of Mama's when she saw her next she said she expected to go to Canada in about six weeks or two months she said that her son J[onathan] Sewell had wrote her a letter about a fortnight ago had lost his Son a very fine plump little fellow indeed. I likewise called upon Mrs Coffin but could not see the old lady she being unwell and did not see anybody but Miss Margaret who looked as blooming as a rose.

I could not see Mrs Brooks who was taken very unwell that afternoon at Charlestown and could not return that evening I engaged to dine there that day but Uncle Gray coming that day prevented me dining there as I went to Mr Silvanus Gray's² to dine so as to be ready to accompany him directly after dinner I likewise went to the theater it being the last night but two that Haymarket Theatre was open for this Winter³ I was very much pleased with the performance the Plays that were acted were the Chapter of Accidents⁴ and the Highland Reel.⁵ I likewise bought a little Pocket Book for 4 s. 6 d. first I bought a pair of Gloves for 1 s. 6 d. which was but half price for the man made a mistake and when I went to the theatre Somebody took one out of my pocket the next morning I bought a pair at the same shop the man having just found out his mistake charged me 3 s. 0 d. I likewise bought a comb with a case to carry about in my pocket which cost me half a Pistereen besides some other little things at the Theatre. Last Friday night I received your letter dated Sunday 5th November by Capt. Thomas I want very much to see what is in the Box and Packages but I expect to go to

¹ Esther Quincy, widow of Jonathan Sewell. She lived in Cambridge, in the Lechmere house, corner of Brattle and Sparks Streets.

² (1765-1818), married Charlotte Gallison, who died in 1801.

³ See *Columbia Centinel*, November 1, 1797.

⁴ By Sophia Lee (1750-1824). *Bell's British Theatre*, xxxiv. It was based on Diderot's "Père de Famille," and was first produced in 1780, enjoying an uninterrupted success through many seasons.

⁵ By John O'Keefe. *Dramatic Works*, iv.

Boston tomorrow with Mr Gray if he goes who is in very bad health being troubled with the ague in the head two of Mr Gray's Russiamen have got in within this week and have made pretty good Voyages and he hourly expects Capt Meak¹ from Calcutta John Prince² sailed Sunday last for the Isle of France as Captain of the Ship he went in before. There is no news here only that there are great convulsions in France the Directory have banished 50 of their members to the Island of Madagascar most of them have escaped the remainder is sent to Madagascar in a cartel I wish Sir you would present my most affectionate love and respect to Mama all the family and all my friends and old Master Pecker³ if he is not dead drunk when you see him as I fancy he will be Mr White of Havrel came to see me last week and I told him I would come to see them at Havrel the next opportunity. The Court sat here last week where I went as much as I was able but that was very little I should like to know what put it into Princes head to run away. but I dear say you will find plenty of servants when you come up in the Spring as a great many have offered but have all gone of to sea but will be back again by the time you come up in the Spring. Harry and I have quite given up the thoughts of marrying yet Harry like his Papa too is charmed with the produce of Marblehead⁴ and is paying his addresses to Miss Lee instead of Miss Lander and has left me quite in the lurch.

We expect to have a merry Thanksgiving as William is going to invite young Swett to spend it with us. The Children are all very well and I think little Ward⁵ resembles you more and more every day and Aunt says he is more like you in disposition and everything than I or any of the children. I here shall conclude a very long but I hope not a tedious letter. and believe my Dear Papa that I still remain your most dutiful and affectionate son.

WARD CHIPMAN, JUNIOR

Dear Papa I would be very much obliged to you if when you come or have a good opportunity you would bring or send the arms of your Fathers Family as Aunt wishes Lucia to work them.

¹ Thomas Meek.

² He had returned from Manila in May, making "the greatest voyage from this Port, tho' not the greatest in proportion to the stock, but upon the actual advance of the Cargo, for Mr. Derby." Bentley, *Diary*, II. 225. He married a daughter of Derby.

³ Jeremiah Pecker (1735-1809) of Haverhill, H. C. 1757, was a school-master at St. John's.

⁴ William Gray married Elizabeth Chipman of Marblehead.

⁵ Ward Gray (1797-1798).

MRS. WILLIAM GRAY, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

SALEM, Nov. 27 [1797].

MY DEAR BROTHER,— I received your kind favours since I wrote Mrs Chipman, and will comply with your requests as far as is in my power the necklace and earrings I have procured and will send now if possible. the silver corks I shall send by another conveyance. the butter you sent is excellent I am afraid you too much diminished your own Store as this is not a season to replace it. I am gratified at your remembrance of our little flock. in a letter to Chip you exactly delineated the features of their several characters. William has with better health recovered the vivacity which formerly enlivened our domestic circle, Harry is animated, sincere, intelligent, and impetuous, as ever. Lucia and Chip are by far the least trouble, but not least agreeable. She has most cunning, and he most firmness when differences of opinion among themselves take place, but both pay implicit obedience to Mr G—— and myself. Chip is really a very manly good Boy and will continue so without much effort, he is generally in fine spirits but sometimes cast a longing look toward home. he now insists that Thomas sailed yesterday, I shall inclose this in his letter, and send the small box to Boston which will be returned to me if the vessel is gone. if it is not Mr Gray will order a jar of Raisins to you. the young scribe writes with so much ease I refer you to him for entertainment. with every sentiment of friendship and affection for your Eliza and yourself I conclude, Yours sincerely,

E. GRAY.

WILLIAM GRAY, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

SALEM, Nov. 27, 1797.

DEAR SIR,— I rec^d your favour of ult inclosing, three setts of Exchange amtg in the whole to five hundred pounds sterlg, as Bills is at this time below par I have forwarded them to London to my Friends, and shall let the Property remain until I can improve it to Advantage which I expect will be in two Months.

Mrs. Gray and your Son have boath wrote.

I supposed it would be very gratefull to both you and Mrs. Chipman, to have Capt. Thomas (at his return) tell you that *he saw Ward*, therefore I proposed his going to Boston, he was

much pleased with the journey, I hope it will meet with your approbation. Ward is a charming Boy, I think he will be all you can wish. I sometimes tell him he must become a subject of the U. States, but he says, no, no, no, he never will desert the British cause, or Government, so you see he is a true Son.

You have made him and his little cousins very happy with the Buns (?) by Thomas, at Breakfast we all partake of the good things.

Please to present my best respects to Mrs Chipman, Believe me,
Yr Most affect^t.,

WM GRAY, JR.

MRS. WILLIAM GRAY, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

MY DEAR BROTHER,—I have neglected writing more than I ought but our little Scribe has the pen of a ready writer to him I refer you for all the intelligence we can give. he has talents for every thing and can easily excell. I tell him he has two constitutional foibles he inclines to be indolent and a spendthrift, but he has so many agreeablenesses he pleases without effort. he likes William's jibes better than Harry's arguments or Frank's ¹ dry remarks — or Lucia's observations. we have a merry noisy group, I sometimes reprove, sometimes inform, but oftener laugh at them. I omitted sending those earrings as Mr. Gray thot it too late. I shall send them with the beads and silver corks the next opp'y. Chip begins to count the weeks that intercept your visit with the impatience of a Lover. he concludes to lay aside that character till he breaks forth in the blaze of his long coat, and new spangled waistcoat, on the Belles at St Johns. in such a family as ours he cannot be indulged as much as he has been accustomed to, but he submits to restraint with as good a grace as our Boys. I write in the midst of as much noise as six tongues all talking on different subjects can make. if Mr Grays health was firm I have scarce a wish to form. we expect Capt. Ward ² daily. my affectionate regards are Mrs Chipmans and yours — adieu Yrs ever.

E. GRAY.

Sunday eve, 4 Feby [1798]

¹ Francis Calley Gray (1790-1856).

² William Ward married as his second wife Joanna Chipman, a sister of Mrs. Gray.

WARD CHIPMAN, JR., TO WARD CHIPMAN.

SALEM, Sunday, 11th February, 1798.

MY DEAR PAPA, — I have been very much disappointed this last week in not receiving a letter from you as it is a fortnight ago yesterday since I received one from you. last Monday Morning about 4 o'clock there was a fire broke out in one of Uncle Gray's ships lying in the harbour but most of the property was saved I need not relate the particulars as I suppose you will see them in the Centinel. the Man who was on board was burnt to Death. but he was a Drunken Vagabond.¹ Mr. Mouchy attends Lucia and me every morning from 9 to 10 O'clock. William used to attend him before he returned to College where he went last Thursday and indeed Sir I miss him a great deal as he was always so good natured and so full of his fun He wrote us last night that there [was] a subscription going about in Boston for having an American Vauxhall between Cambridge and Charlestown. Mama when [you] come up will you let me have the pleasure of escorting you to Drink tea as I will bespeak a Box?

At School we have got as far as the 5th Aeneid in Virgil in Tully at first we went through the four Orations against Cataline then we went back and began the Book we have now got through the two first Orations and have gone forward to the first Oration after those against Cataline. In Greek we have gone through John and then began Matthew and have got as far as the tenth of Mark and now get in an afternoon from 50 to 80 verses. I cypher at evening School and have got as far as Double Fellowship. What Arithmetic did you study in when you was at College Papa? as Pike² was not formed then. I wish Sir you would present my best love and respects to Mama and all my Friends in which we all join and believe my Dear Papa that I still remain your most dutiful and affectionate Son,

WARD CHIPMAN, JUN^r¹ See Bentley, *Diary*, II. 257.² Nicholas Pike.